

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10

HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 TRSE-00

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2798

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 03126

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SHUM, UNGA, UNHRC, CI

SUBJECT: STATEMENT ISSUED BY CHAIRMAN OF AD HOC

WORKING GROUP ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE

REF: USUN 3123

BEGIN TEXT:

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED TODAY (AUGUST 3) AT HEADQUARTERS BY GHULAM ALI ALLANA (PAKISTAN), CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED NATIONS AD HOC WORKING GROUP TO INQUIRE INTO THE SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE:

- "IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT THE PRESIDENT OF CHILE POSTPONED THE VISIT OF THE WORKING GROUP TO CHILE IN JULY 1975, WHILE THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP WERE ALREADY IN LIMA ON THEIR WAY TO SANTIAGO, SAYING THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO TAKE PLACE AT A MORE PROPITIOUS TIME.

- "THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS HAVE ON ALL OCCASIONS STRESSED IN THEIR RESOLUTIONS THAT THE WORKING GROUP SHOULD CONTINUE TO INVESTIGATE THE
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SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE, IN PARTICULAR THROUGH A VISIT TO THAT COUNTRY. SINCE THEN, THE VISIT OF THE GROUP TO CHILE HAS BEEN A MATTER OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE WORKING GROUP AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE.

- "THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE WERE FIRM IN THEIR STAND

THAT THEY WOULD NOT ACCEPT THE VISIT OF THE GROUP AS A WHOLE, BUT ONLY OF SOME MEMBERS OF THE GROUP, TO BE SELECTED JOINTLY BY THE GROUP AND THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE. THE GROUP ON ITS PART COULD NOT ACCEPT THIS POSITION, AS IT WOULD HAVE BEEN CONTRARY TO THE TERMS OF ITS MANDATE RECEIVED FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

- "IN THE MEANTIME, THE GROUP HAD SUBMITTED THREE REPORTS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THREE TO THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, WHICH HAD BEEN ADOPTED BY BOTH BY OVERWHELMING MAJORITIES. BUT THE QUESTION OF THE VISIT OF THE GROUP TO CHILE HAD REACHED AN IMPASSE, WHICH DEFIED BEING RESOLVED.

- "IN VIEW OF THIS, WHEN THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS MET IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR IN GENEVA, AND I HAD INTRODUCED THE REPORT OF THE GROUP, I FOUND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE WAS IN NO MOOD TO ABIDE BY ITS PREVIOUS SOLEMN COMMITMENT TO ALLOW THE GROUP TO VISIT CHILE TO CARRY ON ITS ON-THE-SPOT INVESTIGATION. I WAS ANXIOUS THAT THIS PART OF OUR MANDATE SHOULD BE FULFILLED, SO THAT THE MORAL PRESTIGE OF THE UNITED NATIONS COULD BE FIRMLY ESTABLISHED IN CARRYING ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THIS NATURE.

- "I THEREFORE EVOLVED A PLAN IN MY MIND TO RESOLVE
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THIS DIFFICULT DEADLOCK. THE ESSENCE OF THIS PLAN WAS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE SHOULD REITERATE THAT IT WOULD ALLOW THE GROUP AS A WHOLE TO VISIT CHILE, WITHOUT PUTTING ANY CONDITIONS OF RESTRICTIONS. IF THIS WERE TO BE DONE, THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE WOULD BE INFORMED THAT I WOULD VOLUNTARILY ABSTAIN FROM ACCOMPANYING THE GROUP ON ITS VISIT TO CHILE. THE FORMULA WAS SUBSEQUENTLY PURSUED WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE, WHO ULTIMATELY AGREED TO IT.

- "THEREFORE, WHEN THE WORKING GROUP MET IN NEW YORK IN MAY 1978, I FORMALLY INFORMED THE WHOLE GROUP ABOUT THE VOLUNTARY OFFER THAT I HAD MADE, WHICH HAD MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE TO ACCEPT MY PROPOSAL. I ALSO SAID THAT IF THE GROUP WAS OF THE VIEW THAT MY PROPOSAL WAS NOT WORTH ABIDING BY, I WOULD WITHDRAW IT AND WE WOULD THEN RETURN TO THE STATUS QUO ANTE. I AM GLAD THAT ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP NOT ONLY APPRECIATED THE MERITS OF MY PROPOSAL, BUT ALSO THE SPIRIT IN WHICH I HAD MADE IT. THIS IS REFLECTED IN THE PRESS STATEMENTS MADE BY THE WORKING GROUP IN CHILE.

- "AS A RESULT OF THIS, WHEN THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE ATTENDED THE MEETINGS OF THE WORKING GROUP, WE EXCHANGED VIEWS ON THE DURATION, THE TIMING AND THE MODALITIES OF WORK BY THE GROUP IN CHILE. THE TWO SIDES CAME TO MUTUALLY AGREED DECISIONS.

- "IN ONE OF THE CLOSED MEETINGS OF THE GROUP, I EXPRESSED MY COMPLETE CONFIDENCE IN MY FOUR COLLEAGUES, WHO, I SAID, WERE PERSONS OF GREAT STATURE, WHO COULD BE DEPENDED UPON TO CARRY OUT THEIR TASK OBJECTIVELY AND IMPARTIALLY. I WISHED THEM THE FULLEST MEASURE

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OF SUCCESS IN OUR OBJECTIVE, WHICH IS SPEEDY
RESTORATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE.

- "I HAVE NOW JOINED THEM IN NEW YORK, AFTER THEIR RETURN FROM CHILE, IN ORDER TO EVALUATE THE WORK DONE BY THE GROUP IN CHILE AND TO DRAW UP OUR CONCLUSIONS, WHICH WOULD BE INCORPORATED IN OUR NEXT REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TOWARDS THE END OF THIS YEAR."
END TEXT
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